

Uzbekistan



Independent Muslim Activists

The government continues to imprison an estimated 2,000 Muslims who practice Islam independently of state controls or who express religious views that authorities find objectionable. Individuals including social media users who discuss their beliefs, share or distribute religious content, or criticize official policies related to religion face detention, arrest, and lengthy prison sentences.



Fazilhoja Arifhojaev

RELIGION OR BELIEF:

Sunni Muslim

ARRESTED:

June 28, 2021

SENTENCE:

7 Years, 6 Months' Imprisonment

REASON FOR PERSECUTION:

Online Activity, Religious Association



Oybek Khamidov

RELIGION OR BELIEF:

Sunni Muslim

ARRESTED:

January 17, 2022

SENTENCE:

5 Years' Imprisonment

REASON FOR PERSECUTION:

Discussing Religion and Religious Texts, Distributing Religious Materials, Religious Activity



Alimardon Sultanov

RELIGION OR BELIEF:

Sunni Muslim

ARRESTED:

January 18, 2022

SENTENCE:

7 Years' Imprisonment

REPORTS OF TORTURE:

Yes

REASON FOR PERSECUTION:

Criticizing Religious Freedom Conditions, Discussing Religion & Religious Texts, Religious Freedom Advocacy

Religious Dissidents in Exile

The government utilizes methods of transnational repression to pursue individuals who previously fled abroad because of their religious activity or religious affiliations. In some cases, authorities have reportedly encouraged Muslims to return to Uzbekistan in order to arrest and charge them.



Alijon Mirganiyev

RELIGION OR BELIEF:

Sunni Muslim

ARRESTED:

June 22, 2022

SENTENCE:

6 Years, 6 Months' Imprisonment

REASON FOR PERSECUTION:

Adherence to a Religious Figure, Religious Activity, Travel Abroad

Followers of Said Nursi

Authorities routinely detain and arrest Muslims for the illegal possession or distribution of religious literature and other materials deemed "extremist," such as the writings of Sunni Muslim theologian Said Nursi.



Bobirjon Tukhtamurodov

RELIGION OR BELIEF:

Sunni Muslim

ARRESTED:

April 11, 2022

SENTENCE:

5 Years, 1 Months' Imprisonment

REASON FOR PERSECUTION:

Attending a Religious Gathering or Meeting, Discussing Religion and Religious Texts

FoRB Victims List Stats

87 out of 2,125

Religion or Belief	# of Victims	Type of Abuse	# of Victims
Sunni	86	Imprisoned	86
Unspecified Christian	1	Detained	1
Total	87	Total	87

Average Prison Sentence

18 Years, 10 Months

Reports of	# of Victims
Torture	28
Medical Neglect	2
Total	30

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Frank R. Wolf FoRB Victims List Background

The International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (IRFA), as amended by the Frank R. Wolf International Religious Freedom Act of 2016, requires USCIRF to:

make publicly available, to the extent practicable...lists of persons it determines are imprisoned or detained, have disappeared, been placed under house arrest, been tortured, or subjected to forced renunciation of faith for their religious activity or religious freedom advocacy by the government of a foreign country that the Commission recommends for designation as a country of particular concern [CPC]...or by a nonstate actor that the Commission recommends for designation as an entity of particular concern [EPC].

USCIRF developed the Frank R. Wolf Freedom of Religion or Belief (FoRB) Victims List—an online public database—to implement this provision for countries USCIRF recommends for Country of Particular Concern (CPC) or Special Watch List (SWL) status. The list also includes such victims located in the de facto territories of nonstate actors that USCIRF recommends for Entity of Particular Concern (EPC) status, according to the same criteria.

Due to limited resources, USCIRF is unable to identify and document all victims that meet the statutory requirement to be included on the FoRB Victims List and generally relies on receiving submissions from outside individuals and organizations. As such, the information contained in the database does not reflect country, regional, or global trends. Furthermore, percentages highlighted in this section should not be used for extrapolation purposes nor interpreted as a particular group experiencing greater violations than another or a particular country committing violations at a greater rate than others. To support this project, USCIRF invites those with credible information on victims to submit information using the Victims List Intake Form at www.uscifr.gov/form/uscifr-victims-list-intake-form.

FoRB Victims List Stats Overall

Perpetrator	Victims Documented
Algeria	5
Azerbaijan	11
Burma	5
China	770
Cuba	11
Egypt	18
Eritrea	50
Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham (HTS)	2
Houthis	3
India	55
Indonesia	8
Iran	339
Iraq	2
Islamic State in West Africa Province (ISWAP)	1
Kazakhstan	15
Malaysia	4
Nicaragua	15
Nigeria	9
North Korea	9
Pakistan	90
Russia	449
Saudi Arabia	46
Sri Lanka	1
Tajikistan	13
Turkmenistan	30
Uzbekistan	87
Vietnam	77
Total	2,125

Religion or Belief	Victims Documented
Adivasi	1
Baha'i	163
Bon	1
Buddhist – Hoa Hao	6
Buddhist – Theravada	3
Buddhist – Tibetan	76
Buddhist – Unspecified/Other	28
Christian – Catholic	46
Christian – Church of Almighty God	236
Christian – Jehovah's Witness	258
Christian – Orthodox	17
Christian – Protestant	130
Christian – Unspecified/Other	66
Duong Van Minh	4
ECKist (Eckankar)	1
Erfan-e Halgheh Practitioner	2
Falun Gong	213
Hindu	10
Humanist	1
Jewish	1
Muslim – Ahmadiyya	23
Muslim – Qur'anist	1
Muslim – Shi'a	39
Muslim – Sufi	63
Muslim – Sunni	385
Muslim – Unspecified/Other	237
Santeria	5
Scientologist	1
Shaman	1
Sikh	1
Yarsani	37
Unknown/Unspecified	69
Total	2,125

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Not Released

Umar Badalov
Abdulbosit Akhmajonov
Abdulkhomid Allaberdiev
Abduvohid Ishmuratov
Abror Akhmedov
Ahmadjon Madumarov
Akbar Absalov
Akbar Ikramov
Akrom Zokirov
Alijon Mirganiyev
Alimardon Sultanov
Alisher Kasymov
Avaz Tokhtakhodjaev
Avazjon Umurzakov
Azimjon Abdusamatov
Bakhromjon Inogomov
Bakhtiyor Sharipov
Bakhtiyor Tursunov
Bobirjon Tukhtamurodov
Dilmurod Tuleev
Dilrukh Isakov
Fariduddin Abduvokhidov
Fayzulla Agzamov
Fazilhoja Arifhojaev
Feruz Shodiev
Ibrohim Asronkulov
Ibrokhimjon Isaboev
Ikromjon Akhmajonov
Jamshidbek Atabekov
Kadyr Yusupov
Khasan Abdirakhimov
Kobiljon Zokirov
Mashrap Rabiev
Miraziz Mirzakhmedov
Mirrakhim Mirsultonov
Muhammadamin Abdurazzokov
Mukhammadjon Ibadullaev
Mukhitdin Irgashev
Murod Muminov
Murodjon Khayitov
Nomoz Normurodov
Nurmukhammad Mamadjonov
Olim Mirzaev
Oybek Khamidov
Rakhmatjon Ernazarov
Ravshan Kosimov
Ravshan Ochilov
Rustam Nosirov
Shakhzodjon Zokirov
Sodikjon Abdullaev
Tulkun Astanov
Turnazar Boymatov
Ubaydulla Murtazoyev
Ulugbek Nasimov
Umid Boltaboev
Zukhriddin Madmarov

Released

Alisher Muminov
Aramais Avakian
Azizjon Bannopov
Erkinjon Oripov
Farrukh Yuldashev
Husnitdin Umaraliev
Ibrohim Kholmatov
Iskandar Iskandarov
Ismon Usinbaev
Jahongir Kamolov
Jahongir Ulugmurodov
Jamoliddin Khaidarov
Khayrullo Tursunov
Muhamadjon Akhmadjonov
Muhammad Rashidov
Mukhiddin Jalolov
Nematullo Ibragimov
Odilkhoja Dadakhojaev
Otabek Irgashev
Otabek Madaminov
Ravshan Karimov
Ruhiddin Fahriddinov
Sanat Salimov
Sardorbek Irgashev
Shamsiddin Giyasov
Shavkat Khakimov
Shukhrat Usmanov
Tohir Djumanov
Umar Nishonbaev
Usman Darvyshev
Zabikhullo Muminov